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Date: August 26, 2003

By: Carol A. See  
Carol A. See

PATENT  
Docket No. GC560 D1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
Volker Schellenberger et al. )  
Serial No.: 10/037,677 ) Group Art Unit: 1636  
Filed: October 23, 2001 ) Examiner: Marvich, M.  
For: Directed Evolution of )  
Microorganisms )

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION MAILED JUNE 30, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 30, 2003, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be made as indicated below. None of the amendments to the Claims is intended to narrow the scope of any of the amended Claims within the meaning of *Festo*<sup>1</sup>. The present Response is being filed within two (2) months of the mailing date of the present Final Office Action in order to provoke an Advisory Action. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending Claims are allowable and request that the present Claims be passed to allowance.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 herein, while Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 herein.

<sup>1</sup>*Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, No. 95-1066, 2000 WL 1753646 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000).